

Amendment to the Claims:

The claims under examination in this application, including their current status and changes made in this paper, are respectfully presented.

Claims 1 and 2 are canceled.

3 (previously presented). A method for updating firmware associated with a memory storage device, the method comprising:

providing new firmware to a host;

embedding the new firmware into a first command;

sending the first command from the host to a reader, the host being in communication with the reader, the reader being arranged to interface with the memory storage device, wherein the memory storage device includes installed firmware;

extracting the embedded new firmware from the first command, wherein the reader extracts the embedded new firmware;

sending the new firmware from the reader to the memory storage device; and

incorporating the new firmware into the memory storage device, wherein the new firmware at least partially replaces the installed firmware.

4 (original). The method of claim 1 wherein providing the new firmware to the host includes downloading the new firmware from a server.

5 (original). The method of claim 1 wherein incorporating the new firmware into the memory storage device updates the installed firmware.

6 (original). The method of claim 5 wherein incorporating the new firmware into the memory storage device further includes:

writing the new firmware into the memory storage device using the host.

7 (original). The method of claim 6 further including:

enabling in-system programming capabilities on the reader, wherein the in-system programming capabilities allow the new firmware to be incorporated into the memory storage device.

8 (currently amended). A method for updating firmware associated with a memory storage device, the method comprising:

providing new firmware to a host;

sending the new firmware from the host to a reader, the host being in communication with the reader, the reader being arranged to interface with the memory storage device, wherein the memory storage device includes installed firmware;

enabling in-system programming capabilities on the reader, wherein the in-system programming capabilities allow the new firmware to be incorporated into the memory storage device;

sending the new firmware from the reader to the memory storage device;

incorporating the new firmware into the memory storage device by writing the new firmware into the memory storage device using the host, wherein the new firmware at least partially replaces and updates the installed firmware;

resetting the memory storage device after incorporating the new firmware into the memory storage device;

disabling the in-system-programming capabilities on the reader;

communicably detaching the reader from the host;

reinitializing the memory storage device; and

communicably reattaching the reader to the host.

9 (original). The method of claim 8 wherein the memory storage device is a memory card that includes a non-volatile memory.

10 (previously presented). The method of claim 9 wherein the memory card is one selected from the group consisting of a secure digital card, a COMPACT FLASH card, a MULTIMEDIA card, a SMART MEDIA card, and a MEMORY STICK card.

Claims 11 and 12 are canceled.

13 (currently amended). A system for updating firmware associated with a memory card, the system comprising:

the memory card, the memory card including installed card firmware;

means for providing new card firmware to the memory card, comprising:

a host including means for embedding the new card firmware into a first command; and

means for allowing the host to interface with the memory card, the host being arranged to provide the first command to the means for allowing the host to interface with the memory card, wherein the means for allowing the host to interface with the memory card includes means for extracting the embedded new card firmware from the first command and means for sending the new card firmware to the memory card;

means for incorporating the new card firmware into the memory card such that the new card firmware at least partially replaces the installed card firmware.

Claim 14 is canceled.

15 (currently amended). The system according to claim 12 13 wherein the host is arranged to write information onto the memory card.

16 (currently amended). The system according to claim 12 13 wherein the host is arranged to read information from the memory card.

17 (currently amended). The system according to claim 14 13 wherein the memory card includes a non-volatile memory.

18 (previously presented). The system according to claim 15 wherein the memory card is one selected from the group consisting of a secure digital card, a COMPACT FLASH card, a MULTIMEDIA card, a SMART MEDIA card, and a MEMORY STICK card.

Claims 19 through 25 are canceled.

26 (currently amended). An adapter arranged to enable a memory device to communicate with a computing system, comprising:

a port, the port being arranged to accept the memory device;

a firmware, the firmware being arranged to support in-system-programming capabilities, the in-system-programming capabilities including receiving, from the computing system, a first command into which updated firmware code for the memory device is embedded, extracting the embedded updated firmware code from the first command, and providing, to the memory device via the port, the updated firmware code for the memory device for at least partially replacing installed firmware code in the memory device.

27 (previously presented). The adapter of claim 26 wherein the adapter is one of a USB reader or a PC reader.

28 (currently amended). The method of claim 1 3, further comprising transmitting a command from the host to the reader, wherein the first command is arranged according to a command descriptor comprising:

a first set of bits, the first set of bits being arranged to indicate an operation code, the operation code being associated with a first command supported by the command descriptor; and

at least a first bit, the at least first bit being arranged to indicate that in-system-programming is to be enabled in the memory storage device.

29 (previously presented). The method of claim 28, wherein the command descriptor further comprises:

at least a second bit, the at least second bit being arranged to indicate that at least a second command is able to pass from the host to the memory storage device through the reader, wherein the second command is a pass through command.

30 (previously presented). The method of claim 28 wherein the at least first bit is arranged to substantially cause the firmware associated with the reader to set an internal flag to indicate that the in-system-programming updated of the firmware is supported.